

# State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director JOHN R. BAZA Division Director

# **Inspection Report**

Supervisor DH

Minerals Regulatory Program
Date of Report: August 2, 2007

Mine Name: Pebble Puppy 1 & 2

Operator Name: Bluebell Oil Company

Permit number: S0470050

Inspection Date: April 19, 2007

Time: 3:15-3:45 PM

**Inspector(s):** Paul Baker and Daron Haddock

Other Participants: None Mine Status: Reclaimed

Weather: Mostly clear, 40s

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
<ol> <li>Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds</li> <li>Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)</li> </ol>			
<ul><li>3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control</li><li>4. Deleterious Material</li></ul>			
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)			
6. Concurrent Reclamation			
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	$\boxtimes$		
8. Water Impoundments			
9. Soils			
10. Revegetation	$\boxtimes$		
11. Air Quality			
12. Other			

This report supplements one dated June 21, 2007. The current report is for an area on the south side of a drainage, and the report written June 21, 2007, is for an area to the north of the drainage.

### **Purpose of Inspection:**

The BLM reclaimed this site a few years ago, and I wanted to see the grading and how vegetation was progressing.

#### **Inspection Summary:**

1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds

There is an area that was originally permitted by Hiko Bell, but in 1991, it was combined with Bluebell Oil Company's Pebble Puppy 1 and 2 Mine. It appears the Bureau of Land Management still considers these to be two separate sites. The area on the south is case file UTU-66358 and had permit number S0470049.

The Division lists the status of this entire site as "writeoff," meaning that the permit fees had not been paid in several years and that they were essentially uncollectable. As near as I can tell, the total amount due is \$1050.00.

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#### 10. Revegetation

This area (the area on the south) was regraded and seeded by the BLM in 2004. (The area on the north was apparently not seeded.) We found numerous Indian ricegrass and some needle-and-thread and fourwing saltbush plants. More than anything else, we found many sagebrush seedlings in rows as if they had been drill seeded. There was little cheatgrass in this area although there was a lot of cheatgrass in adjacent undisturbed areas and in the reclaimed area to the north.

#### **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

This portion of the site has enough vegetation that it could probably be released if the operator would request release. Other aspects of reclamation, such as grading, removal of facilities, and erosion control, are all adequate. The portion of the reclaimed area north of the drainage probably does not have adequate vegetation for release, but it would be necessary to take quantitative measurements to be sure.

Inspector's Signature Date: 9607

**Directions to Site:** 

Start just east of the Green River on US 40 and head north for 1.4 miles. Turn right (east) for 3.3 miles at which point there is an intersection and a corral. Turn left and follow the main road for 1.9 miles to the site. Along this last stretch of road, there are about three or four turnoffs, but in each case you stay to the left.

PBB:pb

cc: Bud Covington, Bluebell Oil

Vernal BLM Attachment: Photos

P:\GROUPS\MINERALS\WP\M047-Uintah\S0470050-Bluebell\inspections\ins-04192007(supp).doc

## **ATTACHMENT**

Photographs
S0470050, Pebble Puppy 1 & 2, Bluebell Oil Company
Inspection Dated: April 19, 2007; Report Dated: August 2, 2007



Photo 1.



Photo 2. Note the numerous sagebrush seedlings, mostly in rows.